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lated? Are our methods at fault? Is botany placed too early in the high school curriculum? Do the botanists know where the difficulty lies? Can we teachers find out? Send in your criticisms — favorable and unfavorable. Give us any suggestions as to subject-matter and its arrangement, methods, and that *bonne* *noir*, note-books.

The sixth and seventh questions will be discussed in the April number. Other questions will be taken up in the following numbers if sufficient interest is manifested in this new departure of TORREYA.

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## NEWS ITEMS

Dr. Carlton C. Curtis has been promoted from instructor in botany to adjunct professor of botany in Columbia University.

Dr. H. L. Shantz of the University of Missouri has been appointed professor of botany in the State University of Louisiana.

A Transvaal Biological Society has been formed at Pretoria to promote the discussion and investigation of biological problems.

Mr. H. R. Fulton of the Louisiana Experiment Station has accepted a position in the department of botany at the Pennsylvania State College.

Mr. W. W. Eggleston, who is working upon the North American thorns, has been assigned a research scholarship for two months in the New York Botanical Garden.

It is reported that Dr. Forrest Shreve, associate professor of botany in the Woman's College of Baltimore, has accepted an appointment on the staff of the Desert Botanical Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution at Tucson, Arizona.

The January number of the Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club was made a memorial of Professor Lucien Marcus Underwood. The longer contributions are by Dr. C. C. Curtis, Dr. M. A. Howe, Dr. J. H. Barnhart and Prof. N. L. Britton.

"The Guide to Nature and to Nature Literature" is the title of a new magazine which is announced to begin publication this

spring. It is to be the official organ of the "Agassiz Association" and will be edited by Edward F. Bigelow, who for many years has had charge of the "Nature and Science" department of "The St. Nicholas Magazine."

Mr. William Kent, of Chicago, Ill., and Kentfield, Cal., has presented a tract of 295 acres of magnificent sequoias in Redwood Canyon, near San Francisco, to the government. The tract lies on the southern slope of Mount Tamalpais, six miles from San Francisco, and is one of the few tracts of redwood forest in its natural state in all California.

The Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, has received through the University of Chicago, the complete herbarium of that institution, which was inaugurated and augmented by Professor J. M. Coulter during the past twenty-five or more years of his active botanical researches. The herbarium contains about 50,000 sheets, among which are a large number of types, co-types and specially studied species.

At a meeting of the Council of the New York Academy of Sciences held on March 2, the president was authorized to appoint a committee of arrangements for the Academy's celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin and the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of his "Origin of Species." This committee has been constituted as follows: Messrs. Hovey (chairman), Beebe, Bristol, Britton, Bumpus, Cattell, Chapman, Crampton, Dean, Howe, Kemp, Osborn, Rusby, Stevenson, Wheeler, and President Cox, *ex officio*.

Austin Craig Apgar, of the N. J. State Normal School, died March 3 of apoplexy. Professor Apgar was born in 1838 and in 1862 was graduated from the N. J. State Normal School, where he afterward taught for more than forty years. He studied in the summer schools of Louis and Alexander Agassiz and was himself widely known as a summer school and institute instructor. His best known books are "Birds of the United States" and "Trees of the Northern United States"; he left unfinished a large and valuable book on American trees. Professor Apgar was one of the earliest advocates of field and laboratory work and never lost the naturalist's enthusiasm.

Press dispatches bring the sad news of the death in Guatemala on March 8 of Professor William A. Kellerman, head of the department of botany of the Ohio State University. In company with several student assistants he was on his fourth winter expedition to Guatemala, as was briefly noted in the February TORREYA. Professor Kellerman was born in Ashville, Ohio, May 1, 1850, was graduated from Cornell University in 1874; and received the degree of Ph.D. from the University of Zürich in 1881. He was professor of botany in the Kansas State Agricultural College from 1883 to 1891, since which time he had been professor of botany in the Ohio State University. In 1885, in association with J. B. Ellis and B. M. Everhart, he established *The Journal of Mycology*, which, in 1889, on the completion of the fourth volume, was continued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture as a bulletin of the Section of Vegetable Pathology until 1894, when its publication ceased, only to be resumed in 1902 as an independent organ under the editorship of Professor Kellerman. In addition to numerous papers on the fungi, Professor Kellerman was the author of a text-book under the title of "Elements of Botany," an "Analytical Flora of Kansas" (with Mrs. Kellerman), a "Catalogue of Ohio Plants" (with W. C. Werner), and a large number of short articles involving a wide range of botanical activity. Professor Kellerman was a member of the Torrey Botanical Club.